THE FIGHT FOR SIGHT ANNUAL REPORT 1967

SOME IMPORTANT FACTS

- ☐ About 400,000 persons in the United States are blind.
- ☐ One and a half million have lost the sight of one eye.
- ☐ Over 11 million children need eye care.
- ☐ Cataracts cause 20% of the cases of blindness in the United States. Almost 60% of people over 60 have cataracts, with the figure approaching 100% for those over 80.
- ☐ About one person in 50 over the age of 40 has glaucoma.
- ☐ With more than two million known diabetics, there is a pressing need to investigate the relationship between diabetes and loss of sight.
- ☐ Every 20 minutes a man, woman or child goes blind in this country...three every hour! The causes of blindness in 80% of these cases are as yet unknown to science.

- ■ $150 million a year is spent on care of those already blind –but only a very small per cent of this amount is spent on research to conquer blinding eye diseases.

Fight For Sight Research Awards have been made to medical colleges, hospitals and eye centers in 30 states in the United States and in 18 foreign countries: South Africa, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, England, France. Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Uganda. Fight For Sight has also made it possible for American scientists to conduct research and exchange research ideas in a number of foreign lands and for foreign investigators (some from countries behind the Iron Curtain) to engage in research in this country...EYE RESEARCH ANYWHERE HELPS MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN EVERYWHERE!

From 1950 to 1967 Fight For Sight Awarded

235 Student Fellowships in the amount of	$ 142,749.00
138 Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in the amount of	671,384.00
423 Grants-in-Aid in the amount of	1,375,914.66
33 Clinical Research Service Projects in the amount of	268,549.62

In total, there were 829 Fight For Sight Awards in the amount of $2,459,597.28. In addition, for coordination of the research program and to supplement research activities, the sum of $219,836 was expended from 1950 to 1967. Thus, from 1950 to 1967, Fight For Sight provided $2,679,433.28 for the support of eye research and treatment.

■ With the sum of $338,500 to be expended for research awards, clinical research service projects and related research activities, from funds received during the year ended March 31, 1967, the total made available by the Fight For Sight since 1950 for grants, fellowships, clinical service projects and activities coordinating and supplementing the research program is $3,017,933.28—the largest sum distributed by a voluntary health organization in support of eye research investigations!

Among The Many Advances in Eye Research Stimulated and Aided by The Fight For Sight

Synthetic corneal implants which, though still experimental, have helped to restore sight for a number of patients;

Cryosurgical techniques (using instruments frozen to below zero) for cataract, glaucoma and retinal surgery and for the possible treatment of other eye diseases;

Drugs for the control of glaucoma;

Equipment and apparatus, as well as personnel and programs, for prescribing visual and fusion training (pleoptics and orthoptics) to help young children with crossed eyes, squint, etc., conditions which if not detected and treated soon enough, may result in reduced or seriously impaired vision.

Use of the Laser beam (with many more times the intensity of the sun's light and heat) in the treatment of torn retinas, certain retinal diseases and eye tumors;

Application of IDU, an anti-virus drug, for herpes simplex keratitis (an infectious eye disease which may seriously damage the cornea);

Virtual eradication of retrolental fibroplasia, a serious cause of blindness in premature infants. (Research found this to be the result of high concentration of oxygen in incubators.)

Fight For Sight
Sponsors Children's Eye Clinics

One in New York at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center and another in Philadelphia at Wills Eye Hospital; a third Fight For Sight Children's Eye Clinic is expected to open early in 1968 at the Eye and Ear Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. These Fight For Sight Children's Eye Clinics, especially designed, equipped and staffed for the younger patient, provide examination and treatment for thousands of children annually. For many of these youngsters early detection and medical care may prevent loss of sight and the onset of blindness. In addition, these clinics train physicians in pediatric ophthalmology and collect information of value for improving treatment and advancing research for the ultimate conquest of the many eye disorders and diseases affecting children and adults.

HOW FUNDS ARE RAISED

Fight For Sight Leagues, composed of dedicated volunteers, conduct a wide variety of projects and special events to gather funds and to educate the public to the need for financing eye research.

The Radio and TV Square Club, composed of Masons in the electronics industry, gives substantial support to the Fight For Sight Children's Eye Clinic at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center and to the general eye research program sponsored by the Fight For Sight.

Companies and individuals in the pharmaceutical industry give special assistance to the Fight For Sight Student Fellowship program.

The annual Fight For Sight Golf Tournament enlists significant funds.

The annual "Lights On" benefit, an all star variety revue of which nationally syndicated columnist Earl Wilson is Chairman, enables many to assist financially and personally.

Large numbers of individuals, organizations and foundations, across the nation, make it possible for the Fight For Sight to sustain and strengthen its mission so that more might enjoy the precious gift of sight. But still much more help is needed for the battle against blinding eye diseases to be won in our lifetime.

How Fight For Sight Funds Were Utilized
in the year ending March 31, 1967

85.4% of expenditures were devoted to this Program:

Research & Ancillary Activities	78 %
Public Information & Education	5.7%
Case Service	1.7%

14.6% of expenditures were disbursed for Supporting Services:

Management and General	7.8%
Fund Raising	6.8%

Contributions and membership dues to Fight For Sight. Inc., and National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc., are tax deductible.

For information on setting up special funds, giving securities and/or real estate or other property, it is advisable to consult Fight For Sight, Inc., (National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc.) 41 West 57th St., New York, N.Y. 10019.

Form For Bequests*

I give and bequeath to Fight For Sight, Inc., (a corporation chartered by the State of New York, November 11, 1959) having its principal office at 41 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019 ..... ($.....) to be used for the general purposes of the FIGHT FOR SIGHT, INC., at the discretion of its Board of Directors.

.....

**All bequests may also, at the option of the donors, be made to National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc., (a New York corporation chartered September 19, 1946) at the same address.*

Fight For Sight, Inc., was established in formal recognition of the slogan "Fight For Sight" used so extensively by the National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc.

The Fight For Sight, National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc., is primarily devoted to the support of eye research to discover the causes, treatments and cures for the many eye problems and diseases that result in defective sight, partial or total blindness. Fight For Sight has financed research projects at medical colleges, hospitals and eye centers throughout the United States and the world.

Student Fellowships have been awarded to students of medicine and the basic sciences, who, in the opinion of faculty members, are promising candidates for research careers in the field of vision.

Grants-In-Aid have been made to provide funds for special personnel, equipment, supplies, materials, etc., essential to specific scientific investigations.

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships have been given to promising scientists in the United States and abroad so that they might have the opportunity to advance their training, engage in research on a full time basis, and participate in research projects which, in the judgment of the Scientific Advisory Committee, would contribute significantly to the advancement of ophthalmology.

Clinical Research Service Projects have been supported to meet exceptional needs in specific communities or areas. In addition to rendering important health service, these projects provide facilities and opportunities for collecting scientific data which may make an important contribution in opening new avenues for research investigation.

In addition to its primary work of supporting eye research, the program of the Fight For Sight includes Public Information and Education to disseminate knowledge about defective sight and blindness, the need for increased public support in the field of eye research, the work being done and the results which research can achieve if adequately financed. Fight For Sight also renders service to individuals requesting available sources for eye care and furnishes referrals to appropriate agencies offering counsel and assistance in the fields of rehabilitation and welfare.

REPORT OF AUDITORS

APFEL & ENGLANDER
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
347 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

Board of Directors
National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc.

We have examined the summary of financial activities of the National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc. (including its subsidiary, Fight for Sight, Inc.) for the year ended March 31, 1967.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. With respect to contributions, it was not practicable to extend our examination beyond accounting for receipts as recorded.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary of financial activities of the National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc., (including its subsidiary, Fight for Sight, Inc.) presents fairly the results of operations for the year ended March 31, 1967 in conformity with standards adopted by the National Health Council and the National Social Welfare Assembly.

June 21, 1967

Apfel & Englander

National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc. **Summary of Financial Activities** Year Ended March 31, 1967

Support From The Public:			
Received directly:			
Contributions		$ 85,352	
Bequests		6,208	
			$ 91,560
Received indirectly:			
Collected by Fight for Sight Leagues (which incurred related fund raising expenses estimated to total $65,000)			**220,637**
			312,197
Other Revenue:			
Memberships—individuals		13,534	
Investment income, gains and losses		26,499	
Refunds of prior years' grants		4,834	
			44,867
			357,064
Expenditures:			
Program services:			
Research grants and fellowships		267,892	
Clinical research service projects		35,637	
Coordination of research program		23,559	
Public information and education		23,831	
Case service		6,974	
Fight for Sight Citation		500	
		358,393	
Supporting services:			
Management and general	$32,101		
Fund raising	28,253		
		60,354	
		418,747	
Furniture and equipment purchased		798	
		419,545	
Less expenditures financed by special purpose funds		304,029	
			115,516
EXCESS OF SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES			**241,548**
LESS APPROPRIATIONS BY BOARD TO SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS			**258,529**
DECREASE IN UNAPPROPRIATED CURRENT GENERAL FUND			**$ 16,981**

(A copy of the detailed audited statement is available on request)

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FIGHT FOR SIGHT, INC.
National Council to Combat Blindness, Inc.
41 West 57th Street
New York, New York 10019

A non-profit, voluntary health organization founded in 1946 for the restoration and preservation of sight through eye research and treatment